

## Utilizing UAS to Study the Landscape Habitat of Pygmy Rabbits

June 29 – July 2, 2011

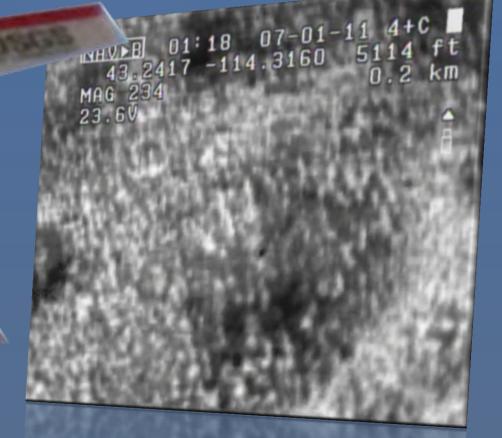




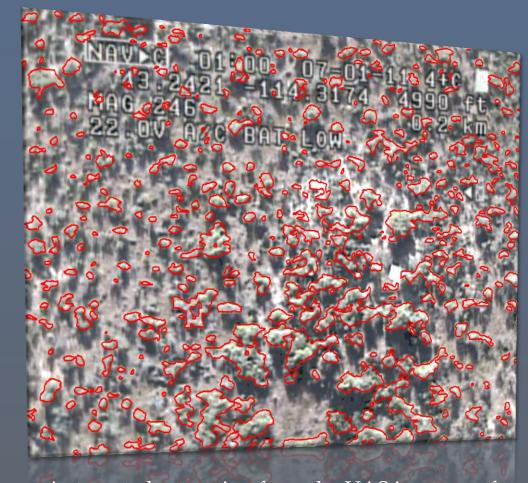
The Raven UAS allows for collection of aerial imagery at various flight heights to evaluate vegetation cover.



Boise State University student with Pygmy Rabbit during UAS mission.



The Raven UAS allow for collection of thermal infrared imagery to evaluate thermal environments an important factor for Pygmy Rabbit survival.



Automated extraction from the UAS imagery of the shrub-steppe ecosystem of Idaho.



Pygmy Rabbit



The Department of the Interior - U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Land Management, researchers from the University of Idaho, Boise State University, and Washington State University are partnering to use UAS technology to gather data for mapping the quality of the landscape habitat characteristics for pygmy rabbits. Loss of habitat is a direct threat to this species, which depends on big sagebrush, particularly mature stands of it. For more information visit: http://uas.usgs.gov

